

National Youth Administration. She was a dedicated public servant for many years to come, particularly devoted to our dear colleague and my colleague on the Appropriations Committee, Congressman Yates, whom she served in many capacities for almost 50 years. I am sure if Congressman Yates was here with us, he would say it was almost as if they served as co-Members.

As I said when she received the Heritage Defender Award, "Not only did Mary Bain save national treasures, she is a national treasure." She applied her considerable political savvy to preserving America's cultural heritage, and she was always a stalwart for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Gallery, the Smithsonian Institution, among many others.

Mary Bain helped to break the marble ceiling for all women—she was one of the first women to serve as a Congressional Chief of Staff. She talked about how much she looked forward to seeing a woman become our nation's first Speaker. I am hopeful that next January we can make that dream a reality—and I know that when we do, Mary will be smiling down on us.

When Mary retired in 1998, she was the last of the New Dealers in government, having remained committed to the principles of Roosevelt her entire life. And though she can never be replaced on Capitol Hill, we continue her work to expand opportunity and prosperity to all Americans.

As we pay tribute to Mary, we remember the many people who loved her—particularly her husband Herbert, who preceded her in death, and her daughter Mary Ellen and two grandsons. I hope they can draw comfort from the fact that so many are praying for them and grieving Mary's loss with them.

IN SUPPORT OF A RESOLUTION CALLING ON IRAN TO IMMEDIATELY FULFILL ITS NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION OBLIGATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a resolution calling on Iran to immediately fulfill its nuclear nonproliferation obligations.

On August 31, 2006, Iran rejected United Nations Security Council Resolution 1696 requesting that Iran suspend all uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities, including research and development within 1 month or face economic and diplomatic sanctions.

In a report the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, released that same day, the agency discussed proof of Iran's continued pursuit of its nuclear program, as well as evidence that Iran might be pursuing alternative nuclear activities in secret.

For decades, Iran has been deceiving the IAEA and the international community about the extent and the purpose of its nuclear program. Iran has consistently failed to provide

sufficient information about its nuclear capabilities and has failed to fully cooperate with international nuclear nonproliferation laws. Time and time again, Iran has scorned diplomatic and economic propositions offered by the global community.

The United States cannot afford to stand aside now and allow Iran to continue with their pattern of nuclear defiance.

This is why I am calling for this resolution, which calls for the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1696; asking the Security Council members to move forward quickly and apply appropriate multilateral sanctions against Iran. This resolution also calls upon President Bush to implement and exhaust every diplomatic and economic sanction at his disposal to prevent a nuclear Iran.

Iran's strategic plan is blatantly obvious: With one hand it is stringing along diplomatic negotiations with the world's powers, while the hand behind its back continues to pursue nuclear activities. In doing so, Iran is successfully driving a wedge between the international communities. Iran remains defiant banking on the assumption that the United Nations Security Council will be unwilling to agree on imposing sanctions on their country.

Iran's pattern of insubordination is extremely troubling to me. Even more troubling to me is the reluctance of the international community to unite together and take immediate action against the threat posed by a nuclear Iran.

This past weekend, European Union, EU, leaders met with an Iranian negotiator in an attempt to persuade Iran to suspend its nuclear enrichment. And just last week, top diplomats from the EU—3: Britain, France, and Germany, as well as the United States, met in Berlin for the first time since Iran refused to accept the United Nations deadline to halt its uranium production.

But while these meetings signal progress, they will accomplish nothing if all of the Security Council members do not completely implement resolution 1696. Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany, and the United States voted for this resolution; now they must champion what it calls for.

The need to implement multilateral sanctions and for the United States to apply all diplomatic and economic sanctions at its disposal against Iran is growing steadily.

Over the years we have seen how Iran's defiance against the international community has galvanized extremist groups in Iraq, Gaza and Lebanon. In the most recent example of the cross-border attack by the terrorist group Hezbollah against Israel—largely financed and supported by the Iranian Government—we saw the devastating impact that Iranian assistance to militia groups can generate.

On the day following the 5-year commemoration of 9/11, our Nation is still vulnerable to terrorist attacks. Allowing a primary sponsor of international terror to advance their nuclear capabilities, burgeons the terrorist threat posed to our Nation.

Iran poses a huge and existential danger to our democratic ally Israel as well. For years, President Ahmadinejad has spewed anti-Semitic rhetoric and has denied the Holocaust's existence. Iran's nuclear intentions are no secret. President Ahmadinejad is on a national crusade of hatred and ultimate destruction against Israel and the United States.

Moreover, in one of the most unstable regions in the world, Iran continues to remain a highly destabilizing force. A nuclear Iran only intensifies the threat Iran currently poses to the security of the entire global community.

Mr. Speaker, let us take a moment to consider the consequences of allowing a repressive anti-Semitic regime with ideological goals, extensive oil production capabilities, and an active sponsor of global terrorism, to possess nuclear powers. The possibilities are endless and progressively more dangerous. A nuclear arms race in the Middle East could break out, or Iran could garner support elsewhere in the Muslim world and successfully advance their radical ideological movement against the West.

Many in the international community had hoped that Iran would realize that advancing their nuclear program makes their country less safe, not more. But Iran made its choice. It has not only failed to meet the demands of the United Nations Resolution 1696, it has defied the resolution and the international community. And now it must pay the price of sanctions.

I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me and co-sponsor this resolution to request that the Security Council members and the United States reply with an immediate and meaningful response to Iran's longstanding pattern of nuclear noncompliance.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS EDWARD AUSTIN KOTH

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, sorrowfully I rise before you today to honor the second sailor from Maryland who died serving his country in the War on Terror. I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the life and memory of an altruistic serviceman from Towson, Maryland, Petty Officer 2nd Class Edward Austin Koth.

Unfortunately, over 2,500 United States servicemen and women have died in the War in Iraq. Each time a servicemember dies, we are reminded of our gratitude for the Armed Services; these people have built a career around protecting American citizens. The drive and conviction Petty Officer Koth and his peers show each day is commendable.

Petty Officer Koth died as a result of an explosive weapon at Camp Victoria, Iraq detonating. He was assigned to the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 8, serving with Multinational Corps Iraq in Baghdad at the time of his death. He was on his second tour of Iraq with only 3 weeks remaining.

Petty Officer Koth is remembered as a devoted sailor who found extreme pride in saving the lives of innocent people. He protected his fellow servicemen and women, and Iraqi civilians by removing bombs from heavily populated marketplaces. He frequently called or wrote home saying he had neutralized a number of bombs while he was a part of the Army Rangers Unit that drove through Baghdad in Humvees and Bradley fighting vehicles in search of such explosives.